

Senior Services Coalition
of Alameda County

March 7, 2014

Assemblymember Richard Pan
Chair, Assembly Health Committee
State Capitol, Room 6005
Sacramento, CA 94249-0070
Fax 916-319-2197

Re: AB 1552 - Support

Dear Dr. Pan:

The Senior Services Coalition represents over 41 organizations that provide health and supportive services to over 50,000 seniors in Alameda County. We are writing to express our support for AB 1552 (Lowenthal), which extends Medi-Cal's Community-Based Adult Services (CBAS) program beyond the August 31, 2014 expiration of its current waiver coverage. This legislation is critical to ensure continuity of care to some of California's most vulnerable citizens.

CBAS coverage for Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) services is key to the successful implementation of the Coordinated Care Initiative. CBAS is also important in helping California comply with the Supreme Court *Olmstead* decision to ensure that frail California seniors and people with disabilities can live in their own homes with dignity and independence rather than being forced into costly institutional care.

Adult Day Health Care programs provide essential nursing, clinical, occupational and other supports to seniors and adults with disabilities and multiple complex chronic conditions. These integrated services help frail people continue to live in their own homes by effectively managing their health conditions and complex care needs. ADHCs provide transportation, skilled nursing care, therapeutic exercise activities, protective supervision, assistance with activities of daily living, brain-stimulating activities, nutritionally balanced hot meals and caregiver supports. Services are provided in accordance with a person-centered care plan designed after a three-day interdisciplinary team assessment that includes a home visit and communication with the participant's primary care physician.

We urge your support for this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Wendy Peterson
Director, Senior Services Coalition of Alameda County

CC: Assembly Member Rob Bonta, fax 916-319-2118
Assembly Member Bob Wieckowski, fax 916-319-2125